



## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Mayor and Council Members

**FROM:** Adrienne Sturup, Director *Adrienne Sturup*  
Desmar Walkes, MD, Health Authority/Medical Director *Desmar Walkes*

**THROUGH:** Stephanie Hayden-Howard, LMSW, Assistant City Manager

**DATE:** June 28, 2022

**SUBJECT:** COVID-19 Update

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The attached information was presented to Travis County Commissioner's Court as an update regarding the local COVID-19 situation and staff efforts to date on the COVID-19 testing and vaccine distribution. The Austin Public Health Department (APH) Epidemiology and Public Health Preparedness (PHEP) Division continues to monitor and respond to the community's needs in the Austin, Travis County area. The presentation gives a cumulative update of vaccine, testing and outreach efforts, progress on our equity plan, and case, hospitalization and death data for the week of June 21, 2022.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Dr. Desmar Walkes, Health Authority at [Desmar.Walkes@austintexas.gov](mailto:Desmar.Walkes@austintexas.gov), or Director, Adrienne Sturup at [Adrienne.Sturup@austintexas.gov](mailto:Adrienne.Sturup@austintexas.gov).

cc: Spencer Cronk, City Manager  
Anne Morgan, Acting City Manager



# COVID-19 Updates

June 28, 2022

DESMAR WALKES MD, HEALTH AUTHORITY/MEDICAL DIRECTOR  
CITY OF AUSTIN/TRAVIS COUNTY



# MSA Daily Counts

Report Refreshed: 6/24/2022 10:54:40

Data Up To: 06/24/2022

Select Reporting Date

5/28/2020

6/24/2022

Select Facility Name

Search

- ☐ Alternative Care Site
- ☐ Ascension Health
- ☐ Baylor Scott & White
- ☐ St. David's

06/24/2022

90

CV19 Inpatients

20

CV19 ICU Inpatients

3

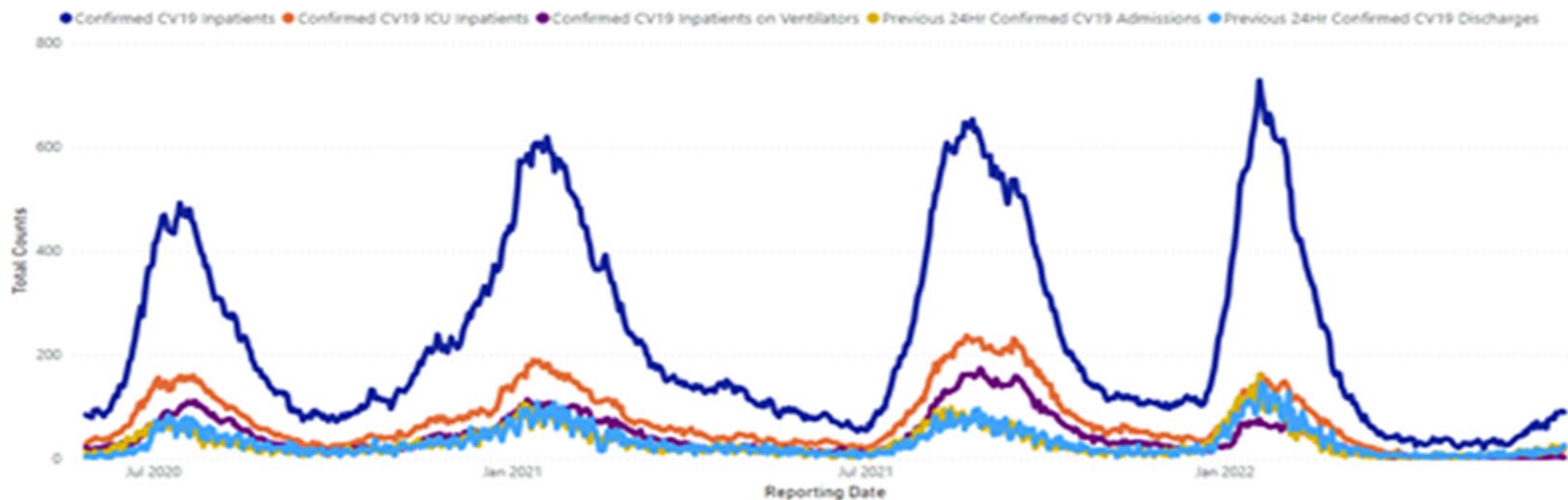
CV19 Inpatients on Vent

25

Previous 24Hr Admissions

26

Previous 24Hr Discharges



# Austin MSA COVID-19 Hospitalizations

Ascension Health, Baylor Scott & White, HCA St. David's

Week Ending

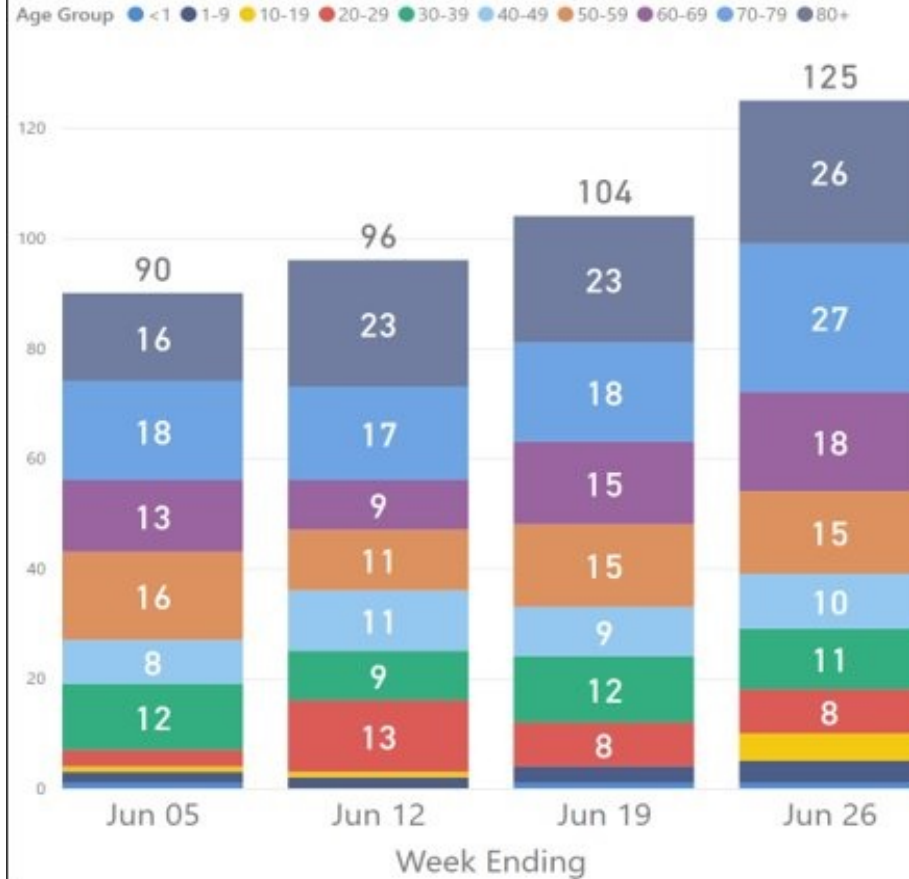
5/30/2022

6/26/2022

H



## Count of Weekly COVID-19 Hospital Admissi...



## Austin MSA COVID-19 Patients Under 18 Years of Age

Count of Patients Under 18 for Selected Reporting Period  
**20**

Count of Patients Under 18 Admitted to ICU During Stay  
**2**

Count of Patients Under 18 on Ventilator During Stay  
**1**

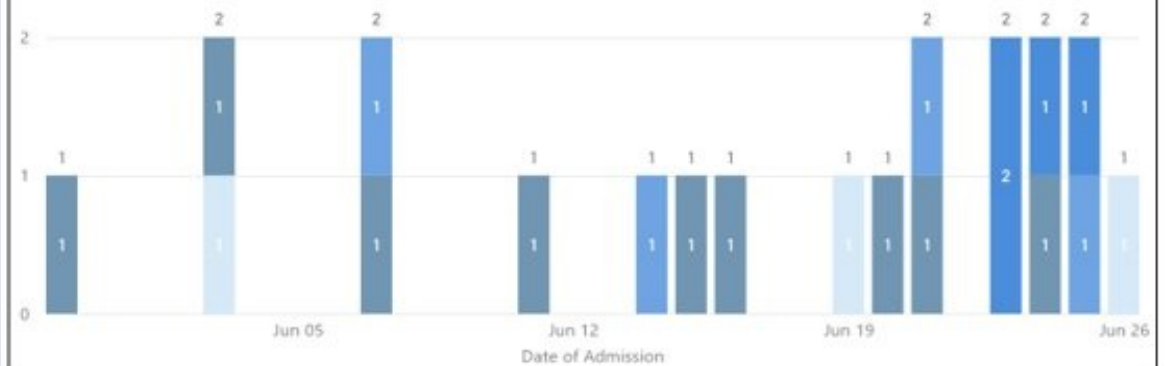
### Percentage of Austin MSA COVID-19 Patients Under 18 Years of Age

Age Group: <1 years, 1-4 years, 5-11 years, 12-17 years



## Austin MSA COVID-19 Patients Under 18 Years of Age by Date of Admission

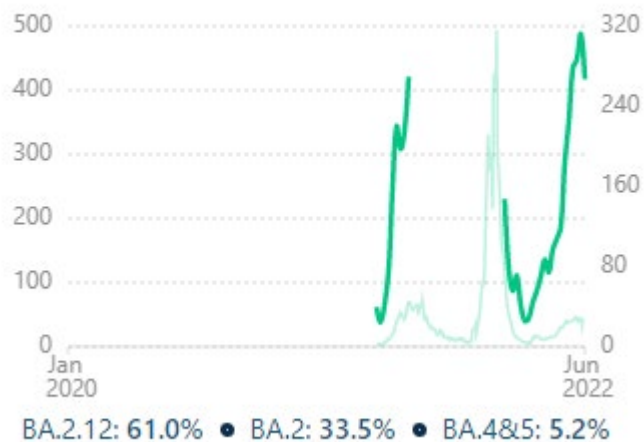
Age Group: <1 years, 1-4 years, 5-11 years, 12-17 years



# Variant Surveillance

CDC Wastewater Surveillance

## Travis County, TX



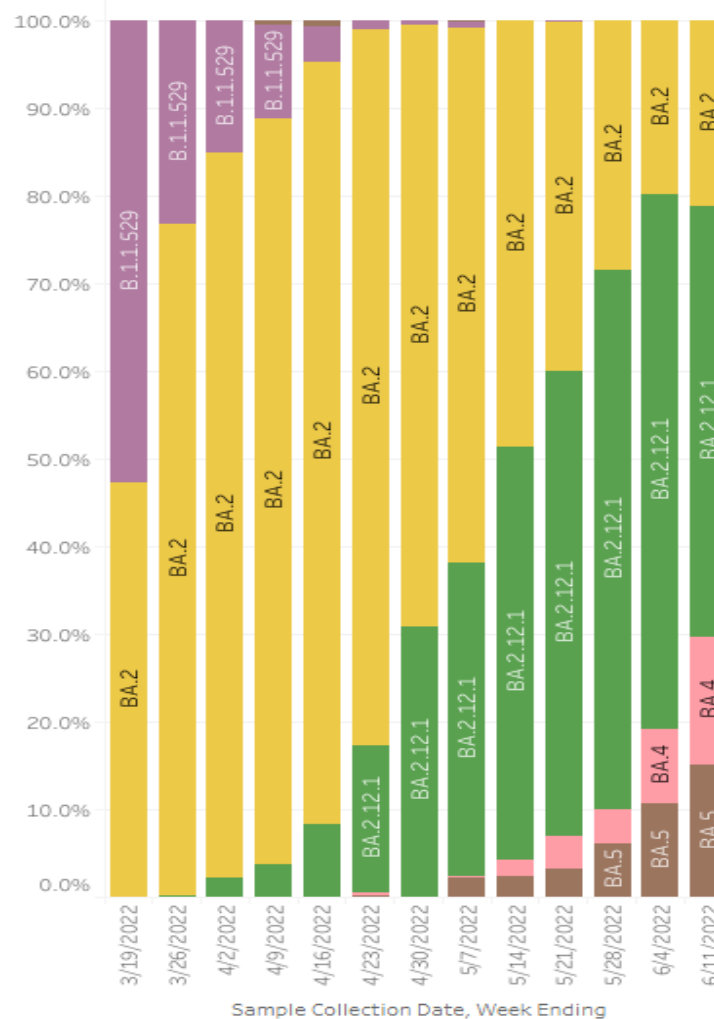
Data - Biobot

## Variant Proportions in Texas

Week Ending

Texas: March 13, 2022 - June 11, 2022

Texas: June 5, 2022 - June 11, 2022

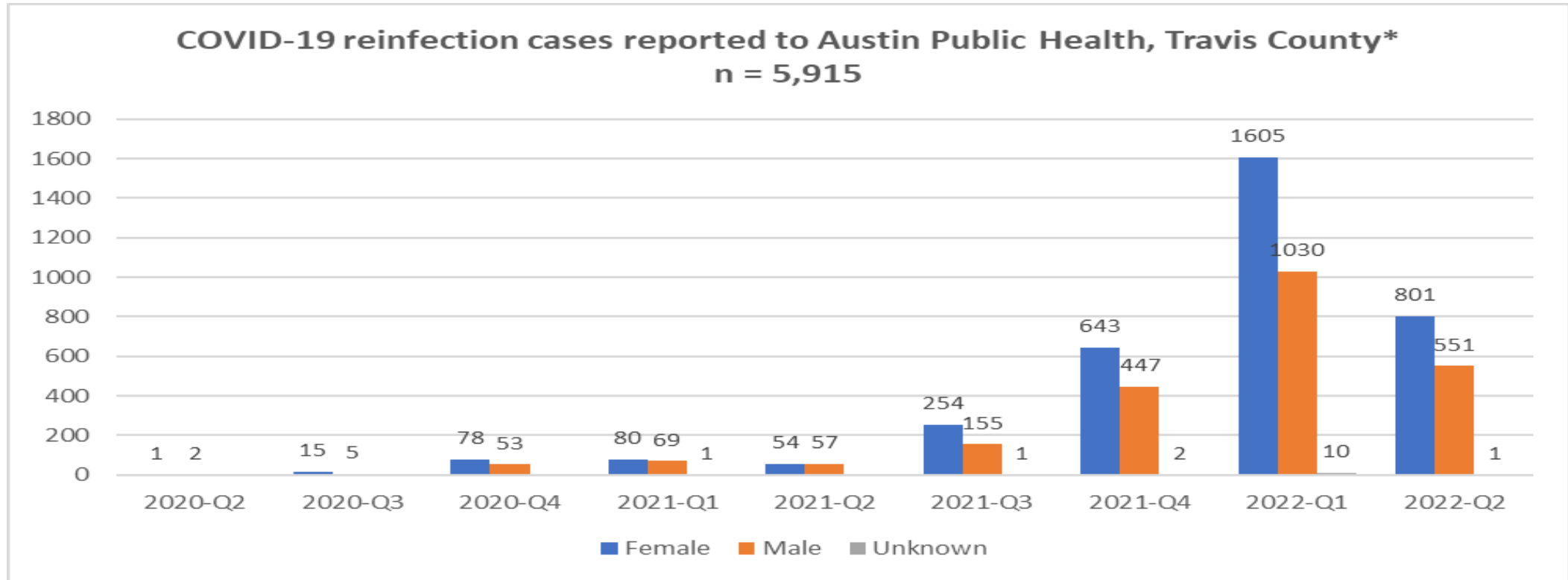


WHO label	Lineage	Type	Counts	% Total
Omicron	BA.2	VOC	38	21.2%
	BA.2.12.1	VOC	88	49.2%
	BA.4	VOC	26	14.5%
	BA.5	VOC	27	15.1%

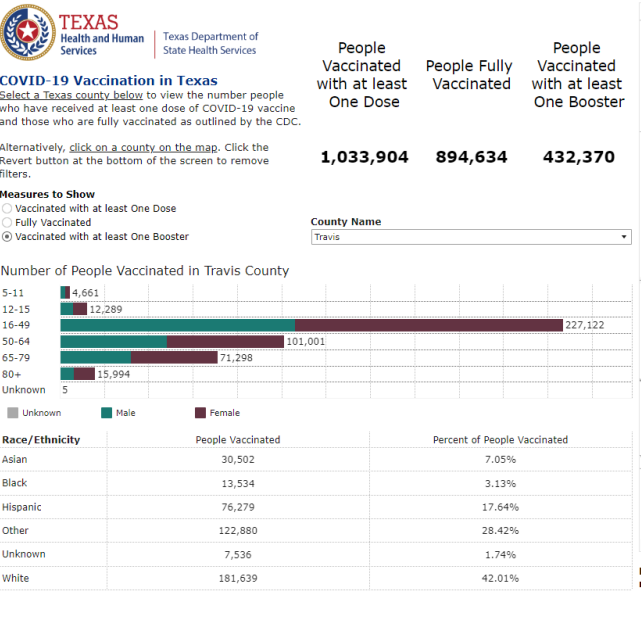
**Data Source:** Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Commercial Partner Laboratories and Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) Austin Laboratory, last updated 06/21/2022

**Additional Resources:** CDC COVID-19 National Genomic Surveillance Dashboard <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/cases-updates/variant-surveillance/genomic-surveillance-dashboard.html>, SARS-CoV-2 (nCoV-19) Mutation Situation Reports <https://outbreak.info/situation-reports>, Nextstrain SARS-CoV-2 resources <https://nextstrain.org/sars-cov-2/>, CoVariants <https://covariants.org/>, PANGO Lineage Reports [https://cov-lineages.org/global\\_report.html](https://cov-lineages.org/global_report.html)

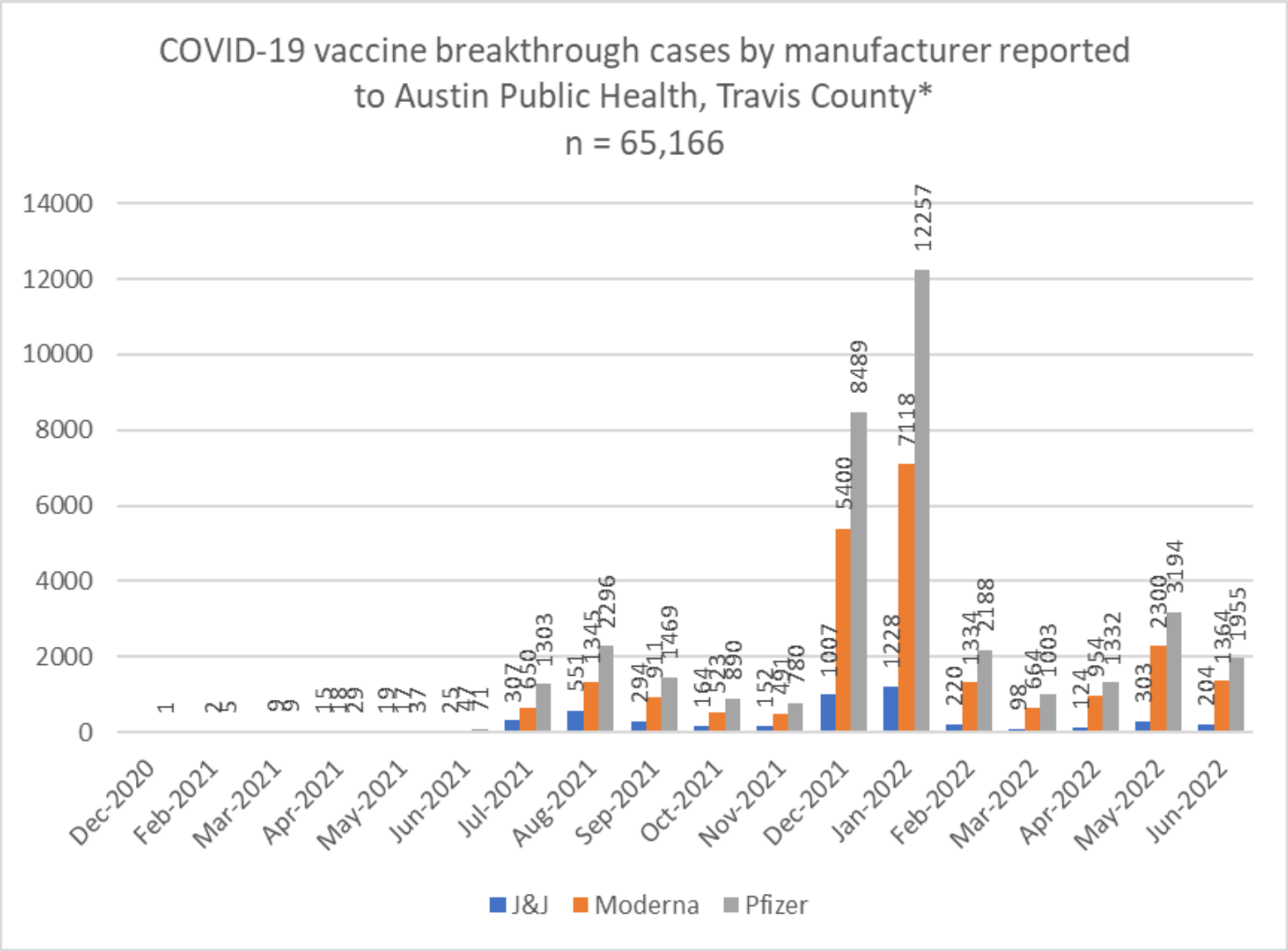
# Covid Reinfections Reported to APH



# Vaccine Breakthrough Cases



[Workbook: COVID-19 Vaccine in Texas](#)  
[\(Dashboard\)](#)





# Long-term Care Facilities

Elderly Persons are vulnerable

Immunoscence

Waning immunity

Chronic Medical Conditions



## Long Term Care Facility COVID-19 Report

APH Epidemiology and Public Health Preparedness

Total Cases

5,854

Resident Cases

3,068

Staff Cases

2,786

Total Deaths

377

New Cases  
Last 14 Days

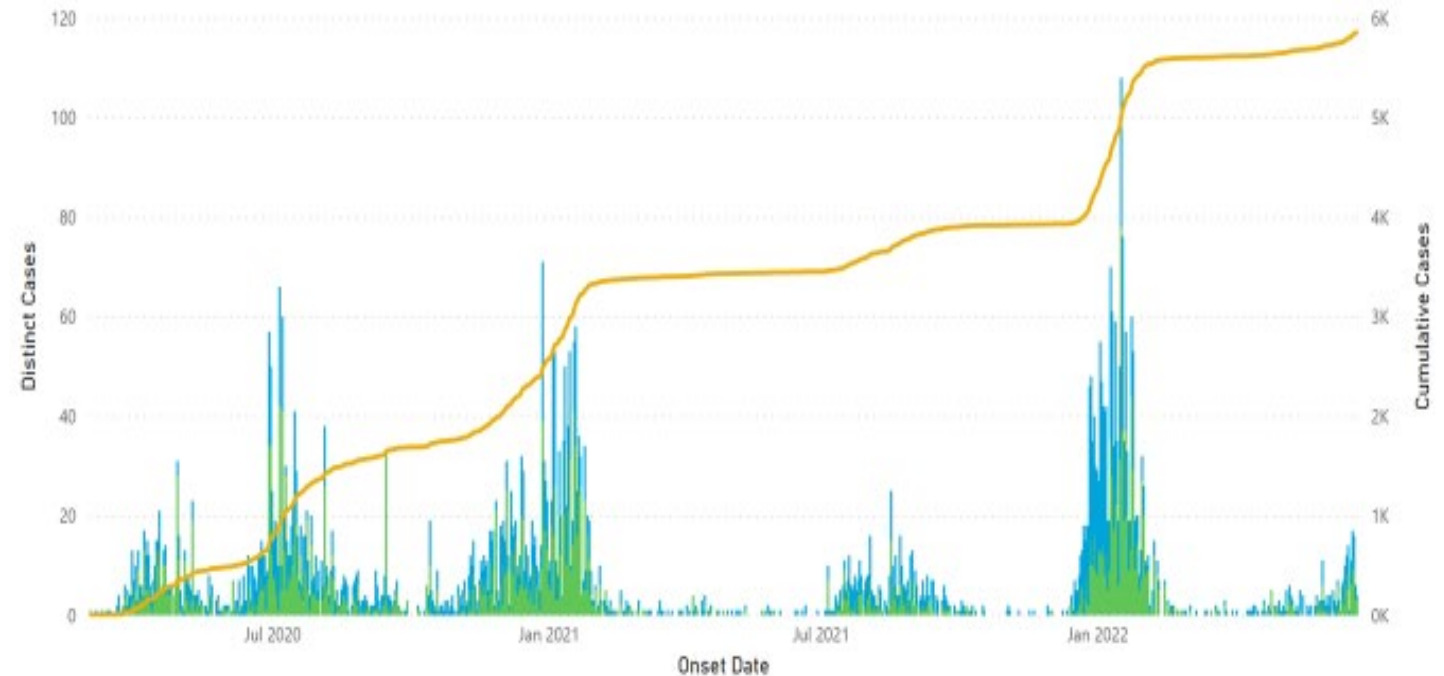
115

New Cases  
Last 28 Days

163

Distinct Cases and Cumulative Cases by Onset Date and Role

Role ● Resident ● Staff ● Cumulative Cases





# Vaccine Effectiveness

In May 2022, compared to people who are up-to-date with COVID-19 vaccination, monthly rates of COVID-19-associated hospitalizations were **3.5x Higher in Unvaccinated Adults Ages 18 Years and Older**.

**1.4x Higher**  
in Unvaccinated Children  
Ages 5-11 Years

**2.1x Higher**  
in Unvaccinated Adolescents  
Ages 12-17 Years

**2.7x Higher**  
in Unvaccinated Adults  
Ages 18-49 Years

**3.4x Higher**  
in Unvaccinated Adults  
Ages 50-64 Years

**3.8x Higher**  
in Unvaccinated Adults  
Ages 65 Years and Older

Reset Filters

## View

Age-Adjusted Rates

Age-Specific Rates

## Filters

Season

All

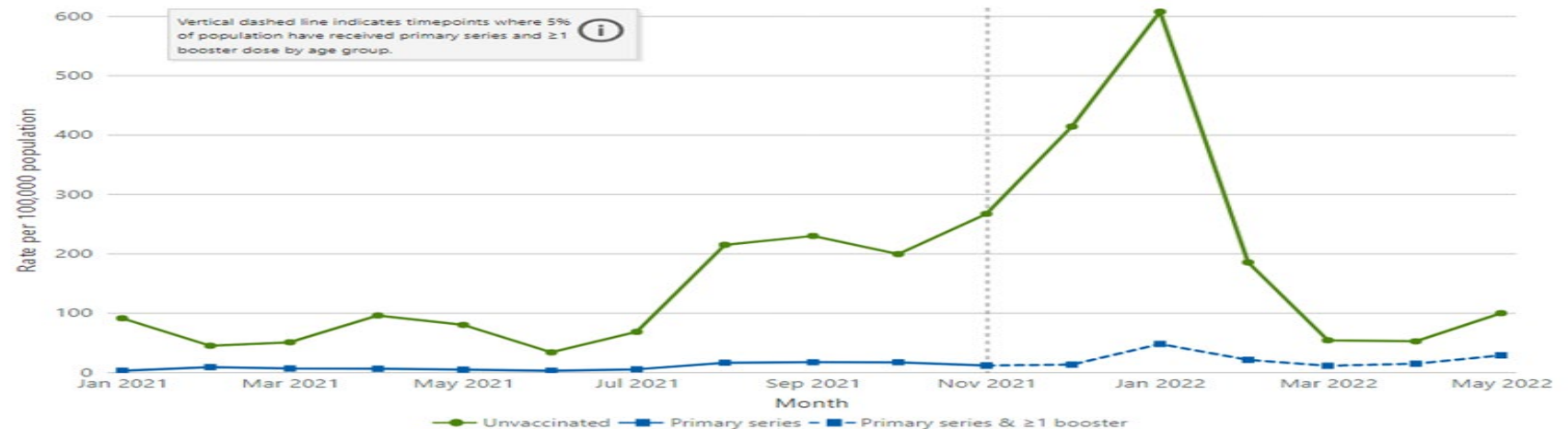
Vaccine Status

All

Age Group

≥ 18 Years

Age-Adjusted Rates of COVID-19-Associated Hospitalization by Vaccination Status  
in Patients ages ≥ 18 Years January 2021 - May 2022



These data were posted on June 23, 2022 and reflect hospitalizations through May 2022.

Note: "Primary series" refers to hospitalized patients who have completed their primary COVID-19 vaccination series regardless of whether or not they received a booster or additional dose. "Primary series & ≥ 1 booster" refers to hospitalized patients who have completed their primary COVID-19 vaccination series and received one or more additional or booster dose. "Unvaccinated" refers to hospitalized patients with no record of receiving any COVID-19 vaccination. "Up-to-date" refers to persons who have received all doses in the primary COVID-19 vaccination series, in addition to one additional dose or booster dose, when eligible.

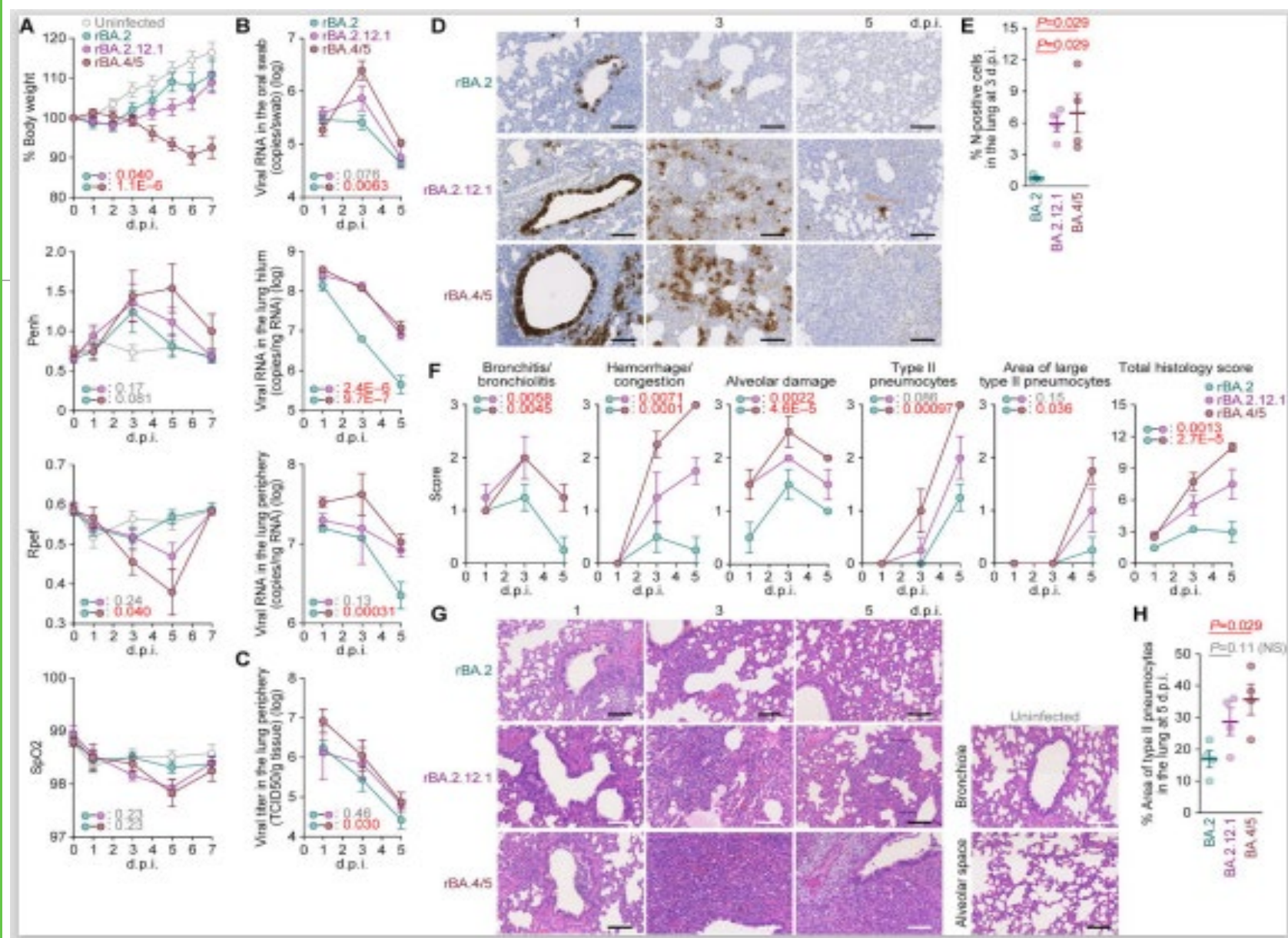
CDC

Download Data

[CDC COVID Data Tracker: COVID-NET Hospitalizations by Vaccination Status](#)

# Virological characteristics of the novel SARS-CoV-2 Omicron variants

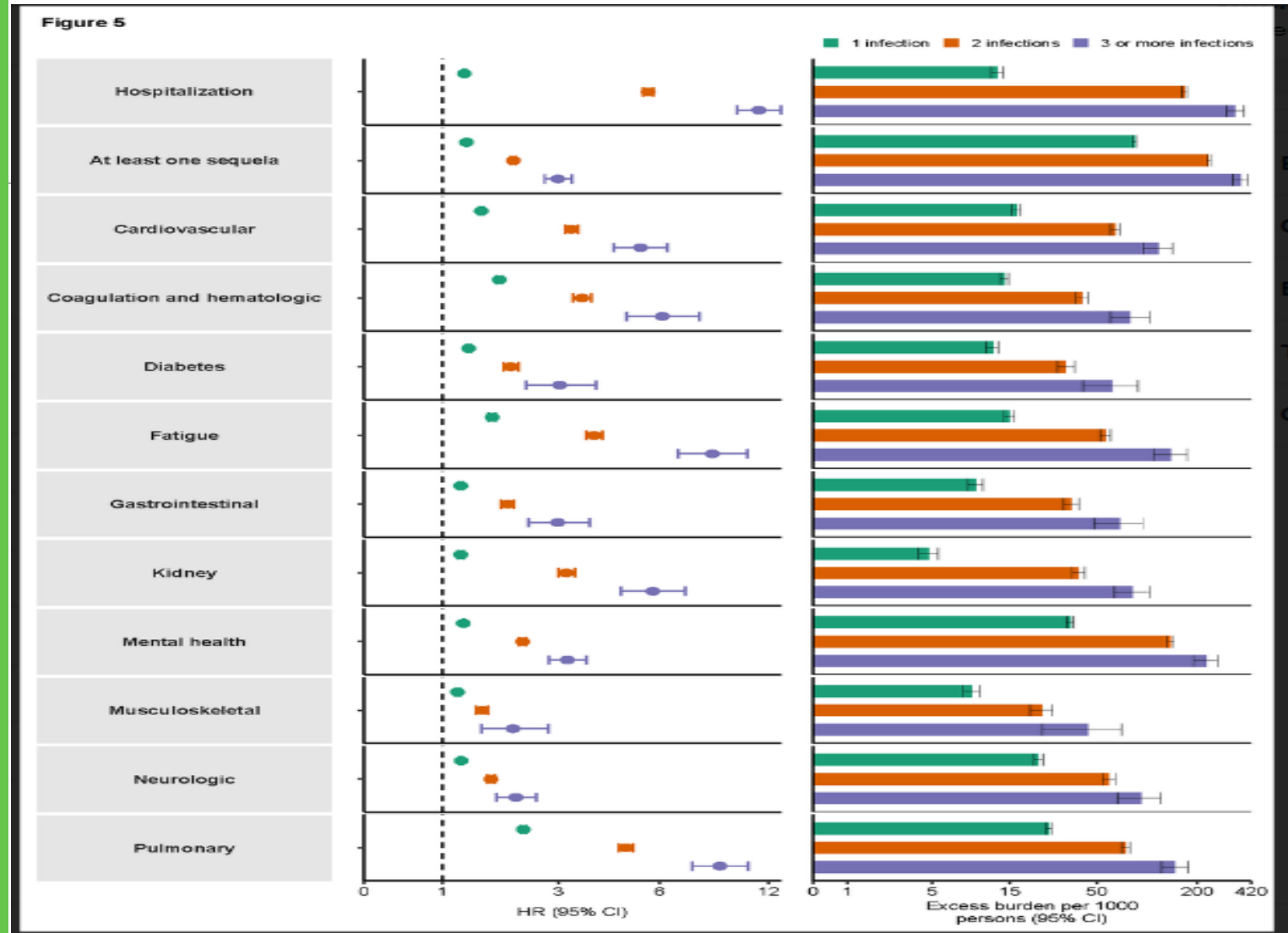
Preprint article showing the increased lung involvement with the BA.4 and BA.5



3710612 (biorxiv.org)

# From a recent VA study

Reinfections are associated with increased risk of acute and post acute death and developing adverse health outcomes in several organ systems in the lungs that last for up to 6 months.

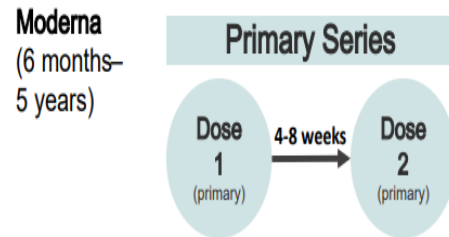


[Outcomes of SARS-CoV-2 Reinfection | Research Square](#)

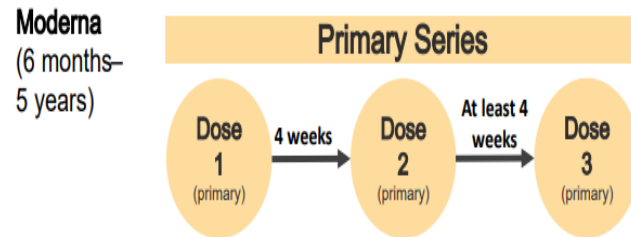
# Pediatric Covid-19 Vaccine 6mo to 4y

## Pediatric Schedule: Moderna COVID-19 Vaccine

People who are NOT moderately or severely immunocompromised

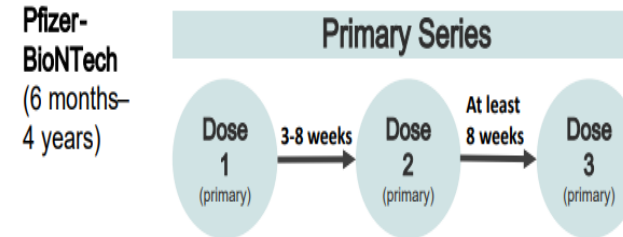


People who ARE moderately or severely immunocompromised

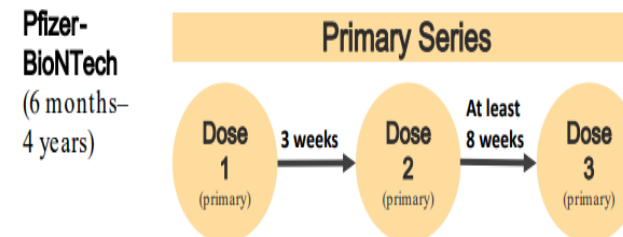


## Pediatric Schedule: Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine

People who are NOT moderately or severely immunocompromised



People who ARE moderately or severely immunocompromised



# MEDIUM

## COVID-19 Community Level

### Contributing Factors

BA.4 & BA.5 are easily spread.

BA.4 & BA.5 affect the lungs more than previous Omicron variants.

BA.4 & BA.5 cause long lasting problems with the lungs, heart, kidneys, and other organs.

BA.4 & BA.5 reinfections lead to more hospitalizations and deaths.

### Medium Community Level of COVID-19

### Recommendations:

Get vaccinated and boosted to increase your ability to have less severe disease and avoid hospitalization or death.

Wear a mask in indoor public spaces if you are at-risk or if you live with someone who is at risk.

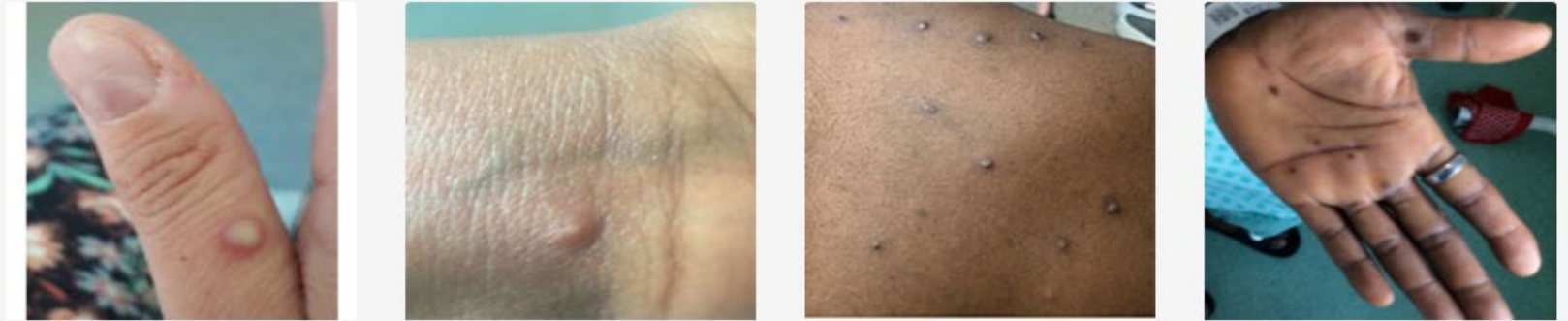


# Monkeypox Update

## Spread by:

Close skin to skin contact  
Secretions passed by hugging, kissing or talking closely  
Touching fabrics, surfaces or objects used by someone with monkeypox

## Visual Examples of Monkeypox Rash



## Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Information Regarding Monkeypox

### What we know:

Monkeypox is a disease caused by monkeypox virus. It is a viral zoonotic disease, meaning that it can spread from animals to people. It can also spread when a person has contact with a person or materials (e.g., bedding, towels) that are contaminated with the virus. Monkeypox can spread through:

- Direct contact with monkeypox lesions on a person's skin
- Contact with contaminated objects, fabrics (clothing, bedding, or towels), and surfaces that have been in contact with someone with monkeypox
- Contact with respiratory secretions during prolonged, face-to-face contact, fluid from lesions, and sometimes tears from a person with monkeypox

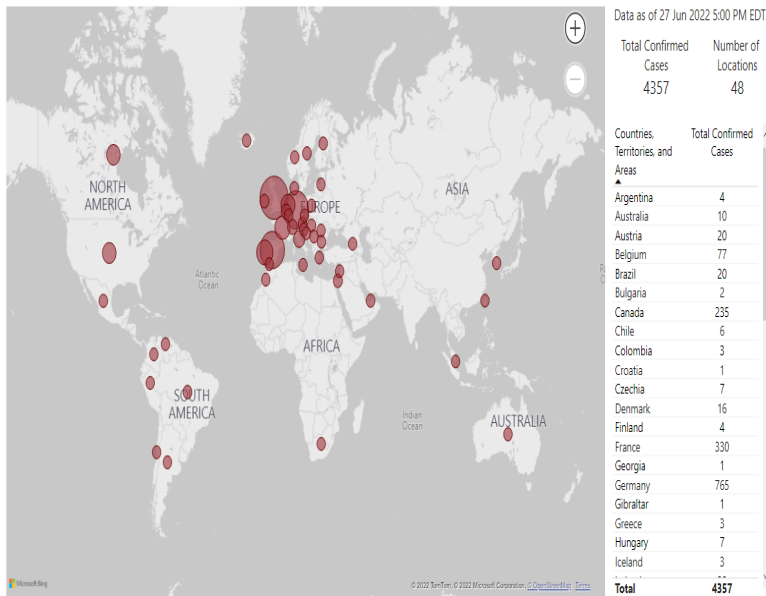
### Monkeypox can also be spread during intimate contact including:

- Oral, anal, and vaginal sex, or touching the genitals or anus of a person with monkeypox
- Hugging, massage, kissing, or talking closely
- Touching fabrics, shared surfaces, and objects (such as bedding, towels, and sex toys) that were used by a person with monkeypox

People with monkeypox may first develop symptoms including a flu-like illness with fever, headache, muscle aches, exhaustion, and enlarged lymph nodes. A few days later, a characteristic rash occurs. In recent cases, patients have developed localized rashes in the genital and perianal region without prior flu-like symptoms. The incubation period, the time from infection to onset of symptoms, is roughly 1-2 weeks. The illness typically lasts 2-4 weeks and usually resolves without specific treatment. Monkeypox symptoms can sometimes be confused with those associated with syphilis, herpes simplex virus, and chicken pox (varicella zoster virus).

For more information on the clinical recognition of monkeypox, please visit [Clinical Recognition | Monkeypox | Poxvirus | CDC.](#)<sup>1</sup>

## 2022 Monkeypox Outbreak Global Map



\*Notes: Numbers shown are sourced from publicly available official sources, such as the WHO, European CDC, US CDC, and Ministries of Health. Data are provided for situational awareness only and are subject to change. Confirmed cases include those confirmed as monkeypox virus and may include cases only confirmed as orthopoxvirus in non-endemic countries. For U.S. case map, please click the following link: [2022 U.S. Map & Case Count | Monkeypox | Poxvirus | CDC](#)

# APH Planning and Response Activities

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- Actively monitoring
  - Persons Under Investigation
  - Person Under Monitoring
- Premise Notifications for Public Safety CAD
- Providing guidance and assisting health care providers/hospitals on
  - Case identification and reporting
  - Testing
  - Specimen collection – currently requires DSHS and CDC approval
  - Infection control
- Department Operations Center Activation
  - Incident Management Team established to support response operations
  - Situation Assessment/Daily Situation Report
  - Request/receive/storage for Medical Countermeasures
    - Antiviral meds
    - Vaccine
  - Support logistical needs for staffing, sample collection, submittal, and case follow up
  - Establish a process to provide case management, social services and mental health services for PUIs or PUMs while being monitored (21-days)



Thank you

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# COVID-19 Operations Update

June 28, 2022

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ADRIENNE STURRUP, DIRECTOR



# Access and Outreach

## Access

- APH walk-up testing and vaccination clinics
- Community-focused pop up clinics
- In-home options
- Partnerships with community-based organizations

## Removing Barriers

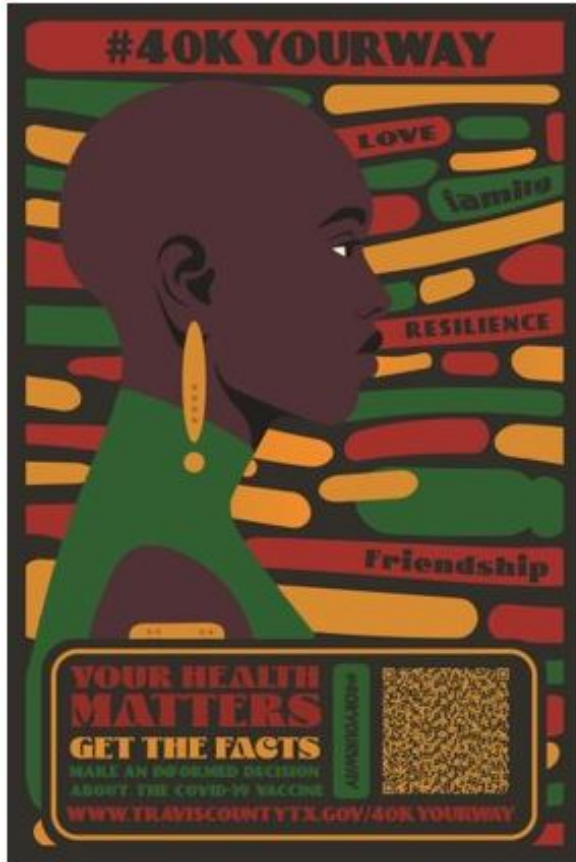
- No appointment needed
- Tailored messaging: no appointment, no insurance, no cost
- On-line and telephone options in multiple languages to register
- Call Center to answer questions/follow-up for appointments
- In-person and remote interpretation available

## Outreach

- Culturally/linguistically appropriate information
- Contracting with community partners as trusted messengers
- Focused Pediatric Outreach
- 40K Your Way Campaign

DESIRED OUTCOME: 70% VACCINATION RATES ACROSS ALL PRIORITY POPULATIONS & GEOGRAPHIC AREAS

# Focused Outreach: 40K Your Way



# Pediatric Vaccine Outreach



**COVID-19 Vaccines for Kids**  
*Vacuna para niños y niñas contra COVID-19*

**STRONGER TOGETHER** **MÁS FUERTES JUNTOS**

**I GOT MY COVID-19 VACCINE**

Vaccinating children keeps kids in child care and parents at work.

**VISIT / VEA**  
[austintexas.gov/covid19-vaccines](https://austintexas.gov/covid19-vaccines)

**APH** **Austin Public Health**  
PREVENT. PROMOTE. PROTECT.

5/25/2022

Scan to learn about vaccines for kids!

[bit.ly/3GKG3](https://bit.ly/3GKG3)

¡Escanea para informarse sobre las vacunas para niños y niñas!

Las vacunas ayudan a mantener a niños y niñas en la guardería y a padres y madres en su trabajo.

- Develop a Toolkit for Pediatric vaccination
- Share toolkit with over 600 childcare programs and Success by 6 partners
- Disseminate flyers and posters to over 150 childcare programs
- Offer social media posts in English, Spanish, Simplified Chinese, and Vietnamese
- Promote through APH programs that serve mothers with young children
- Text messaging via Bright by Text.

# APH ADDRESSES SDOH

## COMMUNITY HEALTH WORKERS (CHWs)

- HEART ATX CHWs at **APH** in community locations

## CHWs with PARTNERS

- HEART ATX CHWs at 5 affordable housing and Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC) locations

## CHWs ADDRESS SDOH

- CHWs do SDOH assessment using ConnectATX to understand needs
- CHWs make referrals to partner agencies

## CHWs ADDRESS UNDERLYING HEALTH CONDITIONS

- Education and referrals to support healthy eating, physical activity, tobacco prevention, diabetes management and prevention

DESIRED OUTCOMES: (1) Address root causes of health disparities (2) Address chronic disease risk factors (3) Have robust and well-trained Community Health Worker hub for health transformation and for future emergency responses

# Overall APH Response Operations and Services April to June Overview

5,549 TOTAL number of COVID-19 Vaccines from  
April 1, 2022, to June 25, 2022

<u>Dose #</u>	<u>Moderna</u>	<u>Janssen</u>	<u>Pfizer</u>	<u>TOTALS</u>
Dose 1	422 (246 are BABY)	13	406 (264 are PEDS, 69 are BABY)	841
Dose 2 (fully vaccinated)	123		384 (194 are PEDS)	507
Dose 3	14		16 (2 are PEDS)	30
Dose 4	185		25	210
Booster	2429	4	1528 (120 are PEDS)	3961

3,709 is the TOTAL number of COVID-19 Tests from  
April 1, 2022 – June 25, 2022

<u>Metz</u>	<u>Mobile Testing</u>
3,644	65



# COVID-19 Testing and Vaccine Options

## Testing

### Metz Elementary School\*

PCR On-Site Testing and Rapid Antigen Test  
Distribution

84 Robert T Martinez Jr St, 78702

Tuesday-Saturday 11 a.m. - 7 p.m.

### Mobile / In-Home Testing

Monday-Friday 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Mobile testing appointments can be made by  
calling **512-972-5560**

### Facility Testing

Testing offered to senior living facilities, homeless  
shelters, and other facilities that have identified  
one positive COVID-19 case

**\*Testing and vaccine sites will be closed on Saturday, June 2.**

## Vaccine

### **Walk-Up Clinics (No Appointment Needed)**

#### Sims Elementary\*

**(J&J, Moderna(6mo-5yr; 18+ & Pfizer 6mo+)**

1203 Springdale Rd

Wednesday & Thursday: 2 – 7 p.m.

Saturday: 11 a.m.–3 p.m.

#### Pop Up Operations

7/22 El Buen Samaritano (Closed Event)

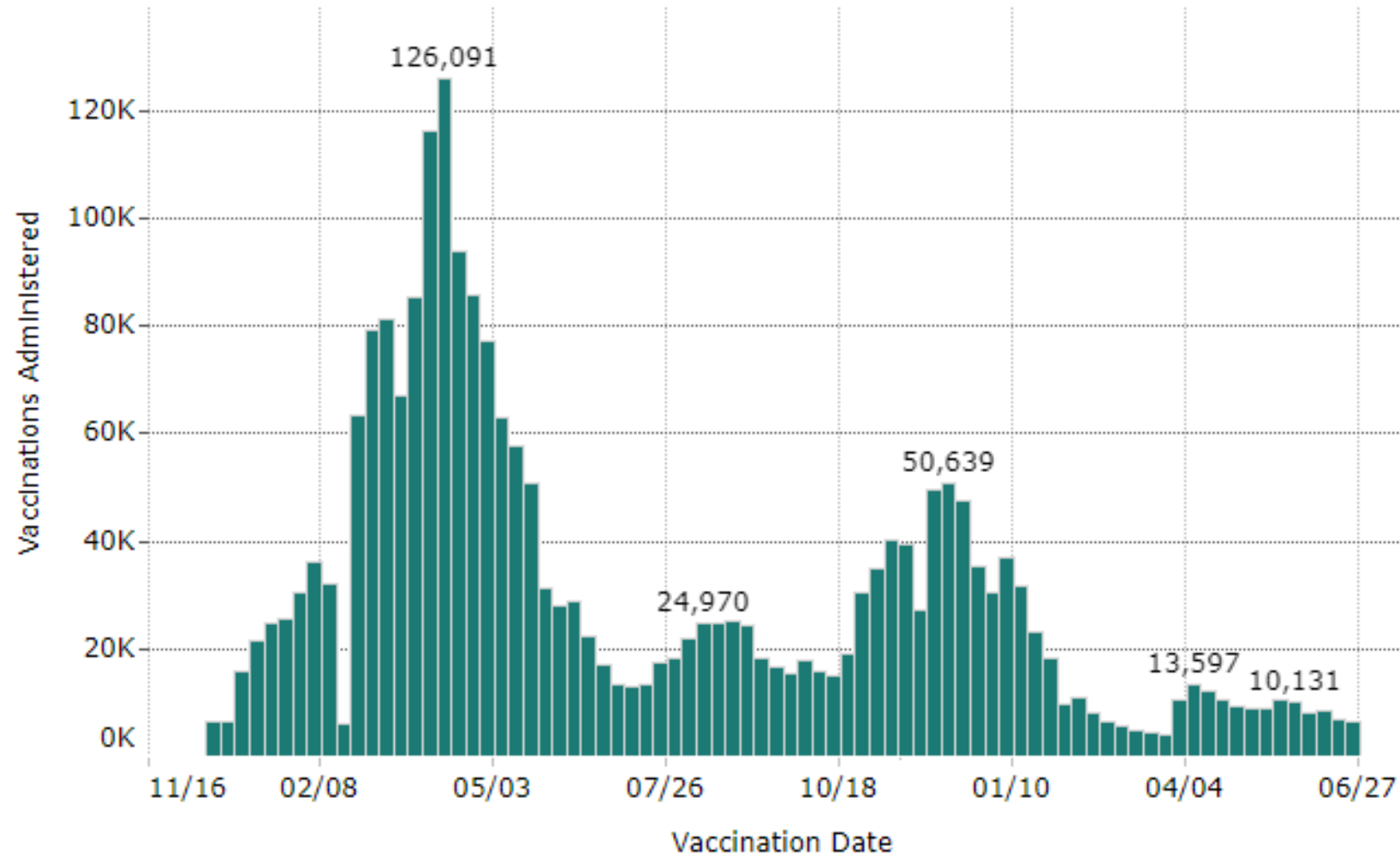
#### Mobile Vaccine (home visits throughout week)

7/6 & 7/14 Foundation Communities

7/15 & 7/29 Mexican Consulate

7/17 Our Lady of Guadalupe

## Vaccinations by Week in Travis County



People Vaccinated with at least One Dose	People Fully Vaccinated	People Vaccinated with at least One Booster
1,034,882	895,008	433,162

**Doses Administered**

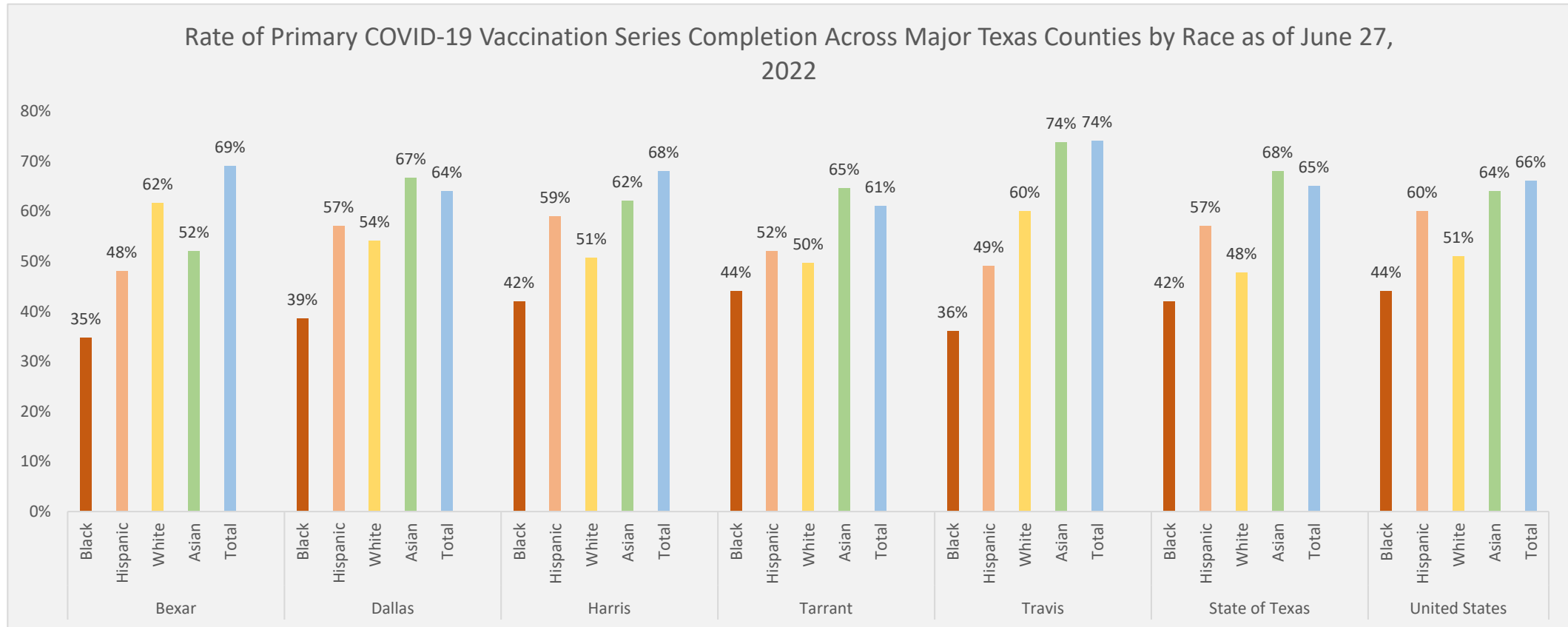
**2,368,149**

# Total Cumulative Vaccine Distribution in Travis County by Age Reported 6/26/22

County Name	Age Group	Doses Administered	People Vaccinated with at least One Dose	People Fully Vaccinated	People Vaccinated with at least one Booster
Travis	05-11	101,836	53,578	43,325	4,903
Travis	12-15	108,607	52,071	44,069	12,375
Travis	16-49	1,323,644	610,655	522,682	227,385
Travis	50-64	468,638	187,997	167,945	101,124
Travis	65-79	296,733	105,130	95,385	71,353
Travis	80+	67,118	23,990	21,487	16,017
Travis	Unknown	1,573	1,461	115	5

Source: Texas Department of State Health Services, Immunizations Registry ImmTrac2

# Vaccine Data by Race/Ethnicity



# Zip Codes with Low Vaccination Rates as of 6/20/2022

Recipient Zip Code	Eligible Population (5+)	Population Vaccinated with at least One Dose	Population that has Completed Primary Series
78705	33,743	53.6%	44.9%
78721	11,814	72.5%	61.9%
78741	49,442	74.0%	60.3%
78752	19,828	75.5%	62.6%
78753	54,279	78.3%	63.8%
78742	764	79.1%	64.5%
78617	26,218	80.2%	63.6%
78745	59,007	80.9%	70.7%
78744	44,646	85.4%	71.0%

# Help Share Our Messages

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**1) Keep kids safe with vaccines!** Children ages 6 months and up are eligible to get their COVID-19 vaccines. Summer is a great time to get full protection ahead of school in the fall.

**2) Get boosted!** Waning vaccine immunity leaves you vulnerable to more severe symptoms of COVID-19. Boosters give you additional protection.

**3) Stay home if you feel ill!** Staying home anytime you feel ill protects coworkers, friends, and loved ones from getting sick. Get tested if you have symptoms.

# Monkeypox Messaging

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**1) Stay aware & seek care.** Travis County residents should seek medical care if they believe they have symptoms of the virus.

**2) Remember what we've practiced.** Continue best hygiene practices we know work such as handwashing and minimizing skin-to-skin contact, especially with those showing rashes or sores.



# Thank You!



**COVID-19 Vaccines for Kids**  
*Vacuna para niños y niñas contra COVID-19*

**STRONGER TOGETHER**  **MÁS FUERTES JUNTOS**






**COVID-19 vaccines are safe for young children ages 6 months and up.**



Vaccinating children keeps kids in child care and parents at work.

**VISIT / VEA**  
[austintexas.gov/covid19-vaccines](https://austintexas.gov/covid19-vaccines)


 **Scan to learn about vaccines for kids!**

*¡Escanee para informarse sobre las vacunas para niños y niñas!*

**Las vacunas ayudan a mantener a niños y niñas en la guardería y a padres y madres en su trabajo.**

5/25/2022

 **Austin Public Health**  
PREVENT. PROMOTE. PROTECT.

**APH NURSES TRAIN FOR PEDIATRIC VACCINATIONS**

